GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6695
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005
TOBACCO SECTOR
Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the major constraints faced by the Tobacco growing sector in various States especially Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the preventive and curative measures taken so far to mitigate problems;

(c) whether the entire stock of tobacco available with farmers of tobacco producing States particularly Andhra Pradesh has been purchased by Government agencies in this sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a): The major constraint faced by the tobacco growing sector in India is the excess and unauthorised production of FCV tobacco over and above the crop size fixed by the Tobacco Board.

(b): The growers are discouraged to produce tobacco in excess of the authorised crop size by imposing penalties on excess and unauthorised production.

(c)&d): The FCV tobacco is marketed at the auction platforms of the Tobacco Board where tobacco is purchased by traders, exporters and manufacturers. In the last three years the entire produce brought to the auction platforms of the Tobacco Board has been sold.